

I am honored to tell you that today on the suspension calendar we honored His All Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, and I commend my colleague for bringing this to the attention of the House. It is not unusual for us to honor persons who are not Americans for their contributions to America and to global society. We have honored many persons, including Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; Nicholas Sarkozy, President of France; Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands; and we've also honored the Honorable Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela, both of South Africa. We have honored events. We have honored what is known as the religious and historical event that is the Festival of Diwali, which was presented to this House in September of last year. And I am proud to say today that we are going to honor Confucius, an Asian teacher, scholar, and philosopher.

Confucius was born in 551 B.C., was one of the great thinkers of his time and of all time. He was a teacher of prosperity and a preacher of peace. He developed Confucianism, a philosophy that has deeply influenced the social and political thought of countries around the world, including China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Vietnam, to name a few. He emphasized that personal introspection, self-cultivation, respect of social relationships, personal and governmental morality, justice and sincerity reflect a moral fiber of the greatest and highest degree.

□ 1715

He preached that politicians must always represent truth and morality. He taught the philosophy of reciprocity: never impose upon others what you would not choose for yourself.

He taught the "silver rule" which complements the Golden Rule: do not do unto others as you would not have do unto you.

He taught the importance of shame in an orderly society by indicating, if people be led by laws, and uniformity sought to be given by punishments, they will try to avoid punishment, but have no sense of shame. However, if they be led by virtue, and uniformity is sought to be given them by rules of propriety, they will have a sense of shame, and moreover will become good.

I would note that shame promotes good to prevent punishment, whereas punishment precedes bad, to promote good.

He reminded all that, When you have faults, do not fear to abandon them. In different words what he said was, It is virtuous to know one's faults and change. He explained that self-respect begets self-respect when he made this quote, Respect yourself and others will respect you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CARNAHAN. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. He gave us with a great degree of simplicity a

quote that I believe is one of his greatest when he articulated, To understand nothing is to understand everything.

I am honored to present this resolution today. I believe that the diversity that we celebrate in this country, the diversity that I have in my district which is 36 percent African American, 31 percent Anglo, 21 percent Latino, and 12 percent Asian, in my district I believe that my constituents are honored to have persons of Asian ancestry who honor and celebrate Confucius. But I think as a philosopher who has transcended time, he is someone we should recognize in the House of Representatives.

I beg that my colleagues would support this resolution, comparable to many others that we have had on the floor of the House.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support House Resolution 784, honoring the 2560th anniversary of the Birth of Confucius and recognizing his invaluable contributions to philosophy, and social and political thought. This resolution is sponsored by my friend and executive board member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), Congressman AL GREEN of Texas.

Confucius was born on September 28, 551 BC in the town of Qufu, in what is now the Shandong Province of China. Though he grew up in poverty, Confucius recognized the value of education in creating an informed and knowledgeable society. He lived his life by this principle and traveled throughout China as a teacher to counsel others in introspection, self-cultivation, sincerity, and the observance of respect within social relationships as a means of achieving justice and attaining morality in the personal and public life. In a chaotic time of internal feuds and wars, Confucius established a peaceful intellectual and personal evolution in the minds and hearts of the Chinese people. He began a global effort to move society in an enlightened direction, and his teachings in the principles of self-transformation, humaneness, strength of mind, and an orderly society have contributed to our advancement.

In addition to being known for his commitment to education and self-enlightenment, Confucius's thought also included the principle that politicians must be models of truth and morality. He believed that government must adopt the practice of moral correctness and that politicians must rule with justice and sincerity. These principles have helped build the foundation for political philosophy, and have been a cornerstone for past and future leaders in representing their constituents. Confucius's philosophical teachings have been studied by scholars throughout the world, and his words of wisdom have inspired many generations of dedicated followers.

Confucius is considered to be one of the greatest philosophers, whose teachings and philosophy still influence millions of people around the world today. I am proud to be a cosponsor of House Resolution 784 to honor Confucius's birth, life, and teachings. This resolution recognizes the importance of Confucius's edicts in today's society, and conveys the House of Representatives's deepest respect to this important philosopher.

I would especially like to thank Congressman GREEN for making this resolution a priority on the House floor. As a member of

CAPAC, Congressman GREEN is a committed and conscientious advocate on behalf of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. I commend his efforts to recognize Confucius's great contributions to society, and I join him in asking you to support House Resolution 784.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 784.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 832.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McMAHON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HALLOWEEN HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year at Halloween, the Feds will be going door to door playing trick or treat on seniors by taking their Medicare coverage. When they knock, seniors should not answer the door. When they peek through the peephole, the bureaucrats will be dressed as snake oil salesmen because they are cutting Medicare parts A, B, C and D. They are going to try to sell seniors on the new bill which we call Medicare part E, but it doesn't cover one senior citizen. Not one. Just call it Halloween health care because it is really scary.

What is in this Halloween health care bill? Well, just look at the latest and greatest Senate bill. You know, that is

the bill that is being drafted in the dark corners and the dungeons of the Capitol where the light of transparency and truth never reaches.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says the Halloween health care will do the following things: It will cut Medicare part A for hospitals by \$128 billion. It will cut Medicare part B for doctor reimbursement \$130 billion. It will rob Medicare part C, Medicare Advantage, off \$133 billion. We are not through yet. And yes, Medicare part D for prescription drugs is cut \$20 billion. The total: \$411 billion cut for seniors and Medicare. That is enough to scare everybody.

This new Medicare part E takes a half-trillion dollars out of Medicare, but it doesn't cover the seniors. In this new Medicare part E, the "E" stands for everybody else, including those in the country illegally.

I know, they keep talking about and saying that illegals will not be covered. But when attempts were made to require proof of citizenship to sign up for Halloween health care handouts, the amendments were voted down. The bill also raises \$424 billion in new taxes.

Now why would they do that when the country is in a recession? The country is broke. We don't have the money. Well, Halloween health care will cost a trillion dollars, and they have to get the money from somewhere. We can't afford another thousand-page, trillion dollar bill. Our seniors are going to pay for more than half of the tab out of Medicare, and not one single senior will get more coverage out of this new health care bill.

Here is where it really gets dicey. The new Halloween health care proposal still rations health care services based on age. If you need a pacemaker, the snake oil salesmen are going to look at your age, the cost in what they call survivability rates. If the bureaucrats think your health care needs are just too expensive, they will hand out pain pills instead of approving that new pacemaker. That is what they already do in other countries where the government runs the health care system. In England it is called, and get this, the Quality Adjusted Life Years, and they have the power to make these life-and-death decisions on seniors.

When the Federal Government is in charge of health care, they are the only game in town and this so-called public option will be costly. You think health care is expensive now, just wait until it is free.

There are commonsense health care reforms we can all agree on. We don't have to have the government take over the whole system to fix what is specifically wrong with the system. That is like pulling all of your teeth when you have a toothache.

Halloween health care will be another thousand page, trillion-dollar bill. It will raise Medicare and other premiums, raise taxes, and slash Medicare coverage for seniors. This is not reform, that's abuse. But that is Hal-

loween health care and it is coming to your door. Trick or treat.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MILITARY STRATEGY FOR AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, tonight I want to read a few paragraphs from an article written by Andrew Bacevich. It was in the American Conservative in May of this year, and the title is "To Die For a Mystique: The lessons our leaders did not learn from the Vietnam War."

"In one of the most thoughtful Vietnam-era accounts written by a senior military officer, General Bruce Palmer once observed, 'With respect to Vietnam, our leaders should have known that the American people would not stand still for a protracted war of an indeterminate nature with no foreseeable end to the U.S. commitment.'"

"General Palmer thereby distilled into a single sentence the central lesson of Vietnam: to embark upon an open-ended war lacking clearly defined and achievable objectives was to forfeit public support, thereby courting disaster. The implications were clear: never again."

I further read from the article, "To Die For a Mystique."

"To cite General Palmer's formulation, the citizens of this country at present do appear willing to 'stand still' when considering the prospect of war that goes on and on. While there are many explanations for why Americans have disengaged from the Long War, the most important, in my view, is that so few of us have any immediate personal stake in that conflict."

Again, that was from the book written by General Bruce Palmer.

Mr. Speaker, I further read from this article. This is the close. "The President who vows to 'change the way Washington works' has not yet exhibited the imagination needed to conceive of an alternative to the project that his predecessor began."

"The urgent need is to demystify that project, which was from the outset a misguided one. Just as in the 1960s we possessed neither the wisdom nor the means needed to determine the fate of Southeast Asia, so today we possess neither the wisdom nor the means necessary to determine the fate of the Greater Middle East. To persist in efforts to do so—as the Obama administration appears intent on doing in Afghanistan—will simply replicate on

an even greater scale mistakes like those that Bruce Palmer and John Kerry once rightly decried."

Mr. Speaker, I read this for this reason: I want to first say to the President, thank you for taking the time and thank you for being very careful in making your decision as to what our future plans are for Afghanistan. And, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to read this because Andrew Bacevich knows better than anyone. He fought in Vietnam for this country. He later became a professor at West Point. And during the Iraq war, he buried his son, a lieutenant, who was a graduate of West Point who was killed for this country. So I think we need to be very careful as we move forward, and I want to again say to the President, please take your time, make the right decisions for this country.

I have the privilege of having Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base in my country. I have gotten to know a lot of marines, both active duty and retired. I recently spoke to a general that I cannot name because I don't have his permission, but if I did, he would be well known to the Marine Corps.

□ 1730

He said to me 3 weeks ago, Please tell your colleagues on both sides of the aisle to move very carefully, to have a full, understood plan and a defined plan as to what we're supposed to accomplish in Afghanistan. Again, this general fought in Vietnam for this country.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I will close as I always do by asking God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I ask God, in His loving arms, to hold the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq. I will ask God to bless the House and Senate, that we will do what is right. I will ask God to give wisdom, strength and courage to the President of the United States, that he will do what is right in the eyes of God. And three times I will ask, God please, God please, God please continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RYAN WHITE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am so proud to represent one of the most beautiful, most diverse regions in our country, south Florida. Sadly,